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Postal Regulatory Commission
901 New York Avenue NW, Suite 200
Washington, DC 20268-0001

POSTAL REGULATORY
COMMISSION
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

RE: Docket No. RM 2017-12

Dear Commissioners:

I am writing on behalf of SPCA International, our donors and, most importantly, those we serve – military soldiers and their families, abused and abandoned animals, animal shelters throughout the world. We rely on the U.S. Mail to raise funds and communicate with our supporters. Without the mail, our fundraising would suffer severely and, consequently, so would our mission.

We simply do not understand why suddenly there is a need to increase nonprofit marketing mail rates for the nominal benefit of commercial marketing mail. This would seem to fly in the face of the rationale of the law granting nonprofits a discounted rate.

As a practical matter, injecting unanticipated increases such as those proposed here by the USPS will mean that our fundraising budget will not be able to keep pace with the increase in postage costs. The inevitable result will be a reduction in our use of the mail, a reduction in our revenues, and, in turn, a reduction in our ability to serve our beneficiaries.

If our postage rates were to increase, say, 5%, and produce a corresponding 5% loss of revenue, we would not be able to rescue hundreds of animals, help military soldiers get reunited with their family pet when their new orders take them to another country and they have no funds to transport their furry family member, provide grants to animal shelters throughout the world, or financially assist spay and neuter events, which enables the prevention of unwanted/unnecessary homeless dogs and cats from being born. Respectfully, we ask you to consider this consequence.

Please do not change the current system for calculating nonprofit rates. Implemented by the Postal Service ten years ago, we see no pressing need for a change, especially not one that will do harm to all nonprofits using the mail.

Very Truly Yours,


Meredith Ayan
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